

OUT TO PLAY IN A DAY

EVALUATION REPORT



In Aug/Sep 2021 Eco Drama ran a series of one-day outdoor storytelling and creative play sessions with Glasgow nurseries. Each of the 10 participating nurseries spent a full day with Drama Artist Sarah Rankin, who worked with pre-school children and their early years practitioners.

All sessions were delivered outdoors and focused on storytelling, role-play, imaginative games and connecting with nature.

At the end of the day, a practical CPD session was scheduled, to allow staff members to explore the 'Out to Play' methodology more fully with Sarah.

NURSERIES THAT PARTICIPATED

Broomloan Nursery	Hamiltonhill Nursery
Eastwood Nursery	Ibrox Nursery Class
Govan FLC	Rosshall Nursery
Govanhill Nursery	Sandyford Nursery
Haghill Park Nursery Class	Scaraway Nursery

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS & SESSIONS

Number of children who participated: 306

Number of adults who participated: 153

Number of sessions delivered: 33

Number of CPD sessions delivered: 10

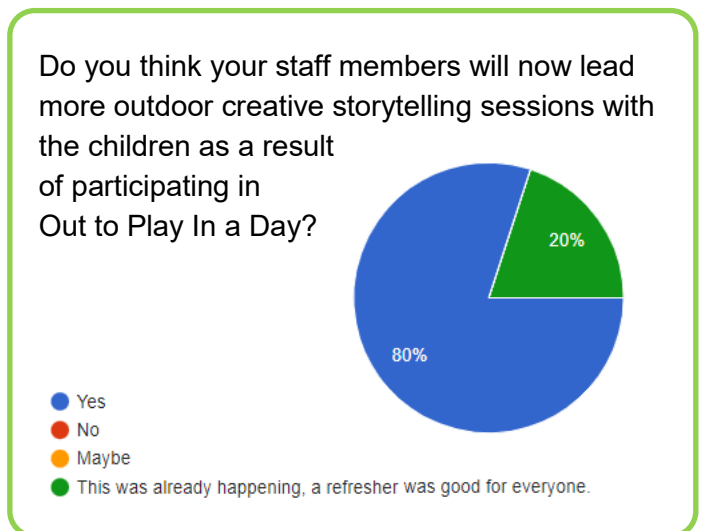
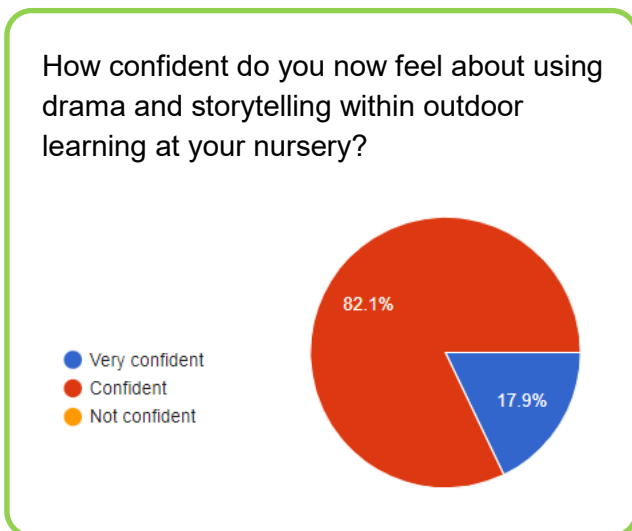
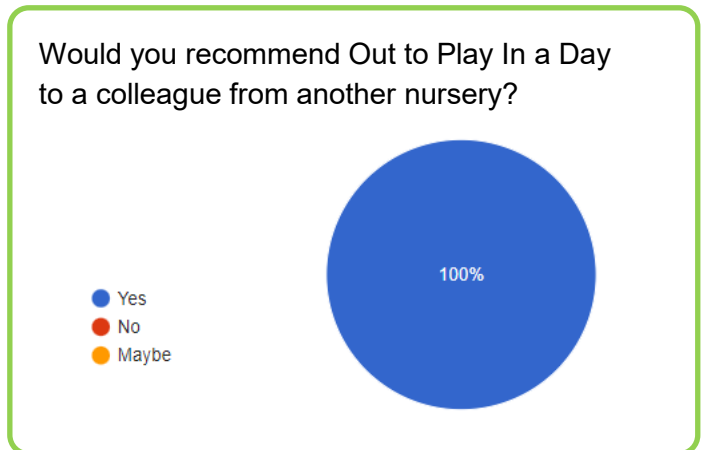


“Excellent delivery of the training. Made me feel confident taking part and working with the children doing drama outdoors.”

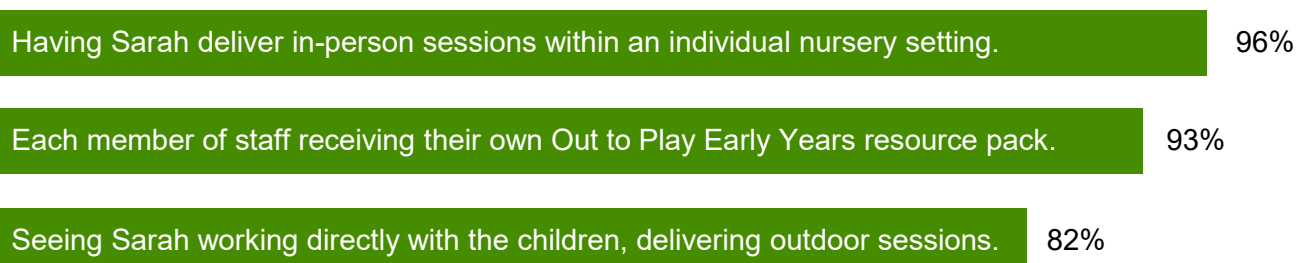
GENERAL FEEDBACK

After Sarah's visit, nursery staff and head teachers were asked to complete an evaluation. A total of 33 evaluations were completed (28 by early years practitioners and 5 by HTs).

A summary of a selection of the responses is shown below.



Nursery staff reported that the most beneficial aspects of Out to Play In a Day were:



"I thought the training was very relevant and interesting. I enjoyed all aspects of it. I thought it was very good seeing Sarah working with the children then doing the CPD training afterwards."

OTHER FEEDBACK

Eco Drama used social media to showcase the project. Many of the nurseries who have Twitter accounts added their own social media posts too.

Ibrox nursery class
@Classibrox

A huge thank you to Sarah from [@EcoDrama1](#) for the fantastic sessions you done with our children and staff yesterday. The staff CPD opportunity was very inspiring ❤️ [@ibroxPS](#)



1:26 pm · 9 Sep 2021 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 8 Likes

Sarah Rankin
@SarahADrama

I had the pleasure for visiting 10 [@GlasgowCC](#) nurseries for The Out To Play in a Day project with [@EcoDrama1](#). Water workshops with the wee ones and training for the grown ups all about stories, drama and nature 🌱🌻🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷 I learned so much for you all! Thank you! [#EarlyYears](#)

Eco Drama [@EcoDrama1](#) · 7 Sep
Today [@SarahADrama](#) is working with [@HamiltonhillFLC](#) in #Glasgow, delivering [#OutToPlayInADay](#) with the wonderful [#EarlyYears](#) practitioners & children. We can't believe this project has enjoyed such good weather every day so far. We'd still have fun outside come ☁️ or ☀️ though!



Haghill Park ELCC
@ElccPark

We had a fabulous day, full of adventure with Sarah [@EcoDrama1](#) [#fun](#) [#storytelling](#) [#imagination](#)



9:07 pm · 2 Sep 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

6 Likes

Govan FLC
@govanflc1

The children and practitioners took part in 'Let's play outdoors' with [@EcoDrama1](#) everyone was so inspired by the wonderful experiences from Sarah and Angela 🌻



5:29 pm · 3 Sep 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

9 Likes

“Was very beneficial, and great to see the children engaging in imaginative play. I learned great new ideas and strategies. Thank you!”

WHAT DIDN'T WORK AS ANTICIPATED

There were a couple of aspects that could be improved upon, if Out to Play In a Day was to continue in its current format.

All 10 nurseries were given the same schedule for the day, which included 4 outdoor storytelling and creative play sessions and then a CPD session for staff members between 3-5pm. Although this schedule was agreed in advance by all settings, most nurseries amended the schedule on the day itself. Sarah, the Drama Artist, was flexible and happily accommodated each nursery. Anecdotal feedback and also comments received on evaluation forms indicate that these changes were mainly the result of staff absence, Covid bubbles and the nurseries own timetables not fitting with the schedule.

“The sessions throughout the day worked as we had enough staff to cover but we did struggle at the end of the day when the staff attended the training session, as we were a bit short of staff at the end of the day.”

“We had to condense it into just 2 sessions with the children due to staff issues and sickness, with the children being absent.”

There were 40 outdoor sessions with children scheduled during the fortnight of Out to Play In a Day. There were actually 33 sessions delivered. Covid numbers were particularly high during the August / September timeframe of the project. This would explain the high number of staff and child absences.

CPDs

There were fewer staff members able to stay for the scheduled CPD sessions than anticipated. A total of 61 staff members attended CPD sessions (out of a possible 193, if there had been no staff absences). Some feedback indicated that having the CPD on a separate day would allow more staff members to attend.

“Having the training session for staff on a separate day would be better.”



SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Tailor-made schedules to suit each individual nursery would most likely result in more staff members and children being able to participate fully. In addition, offering alternative timeslots for the CPD session would allow more people to engage with this aspect of the project.

